

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A thermally shrinkable pressure sensitive label having  
2       multiple layers and first and second dimensions measured in mutually perpendicular directions,  
3       said label comprising:  
4                   a polymeric film comprising one of said layers, said film being  
5                   dimensionally stable at temperatures below an onset temperature  
6                   of at least about 75°C and being thermally shrinkable when heated  
7                   to temperatures at or above said onset temperature, with shrinkage  
8                   caused by said heating being greater in one of said directions than  
9                   in the other of said directions;  
10                  indicia interposed between adjacent layers of said label, said indicia being  
11                  visible through a top surface layer of said label; and  
12                  a pressure sensitive adhesive defining the bottom surface of said label and  
13                  comprising another of said layers.

1           2.       Cancelled.

1           3.       (Original) The label of claim 1 wherein said film is polystyrene.

1           4.       (Original) The label of claim 1 wherein said film is selected from the group  
2       consisting of polystyrene, polypropylene, polyethylene and polyester.

1           5.       (Original) The label of claim 1 wherein the thickness of said film is between  
2       about 0.01 to 0.05mm.

1           6.       (Original) The label of claim 5 wherein the thickness of said film is between  
2       about 0.02 to 0.04 mm.

1           7.       (Original) The label of claim 6 wherein the thickness of said film is about  
2       0.03mm.

1           8.       (Original) The label as claimed in claim 1 wherein the stiffness of said film in one  
2       of said directions as measured in accordance with TAPPI Paper Standard #T498 as modified by  
3       FLEXcon test method #203 Test F17 is between about 1 to 20 grams.

1           9.       (Original) The label as claimed in claim 8 wherein said stiffness is between about  
2       2 to 10 grams.

1           10.      (Original) The label of claim 1 wherein said indicia is printed on an upper surface  
2       of said film.

1           11.      (Original) The label of claim 10 wherein said pressure sensitive adhesive is  
2       applied to a lower surface of said film.

1           12.      (Original) The label of claims 10 or 11 wherein said indicia is covered by a  
2       transparent second film adhered to said indicia by a second layer of pressure sensitive adhesive.

1           13.      (Original) The label of claim 12 wherein said second film is thermally shrinkable  
2       at temperatures above said onset temperature.

1           14.     (Original) The label of claim 12 wherein said first mentioned film and said second  
2     film are formed from the same polymeric material.

1           15.     (Original) The label of claim 12 wherein the thickness of said first mentioned film  
2     is greater than the thickness of said second film.

1           16.     (Original) The label of claim 1 further comprising an opacifying layer adhered to  
2     the upper surface of said pressure sensitive adhesive, said film being adhered to said opaque  
3     layer by means of a transparent second pressure sensitive adhesive layer, with said indicia being  
4     interposed between said opaque layer and said film.

1           17.     (Original) The label of claim 16 wherein said indicia is printed on a top surface of  
2     said opaque later.

1           18.     (Original) The label of claim 16 wherein said indicia is printed on a bottom  
2     surface of said film.

1           19.     (Original) The label according to any one of claims 16-18 wherein said film  
2     comprises the top layer of said label.

1           20.     (Original) The label of claim 1 wherein said indicia is printed on a top surface of  
2     said film, and wherein said indicia is covered by a transparent protective coating comprising the  
3     top layer of said label.

1           21.     Cancelled.

1           22.     (New) A thermally shrinkable pressure sensitive label having multiple layers and  
2 first and second dimensions measured in mutually perpendicular directions, said label  
3 comprising:

4                   a polystyrene film comprising one of said layers, said film  
5                   being dimensionally stable at temperatures below an onset  
6                   temperature of at least about 75°C and being thermally shrinkable  
7                   when heated to temperatures at or above said onset temperature,  
8                   with shrinkage caused by said heating being greater in one of said  
9                   directions than in the other of said directions;  
10                  indicia interposed between adjacent layers of said label, said indicia being  
11                  visible through a top surface layer of said label; and  
12                  a pressure sensitive adhesive defining the bottom surface of said label and  
13                  comprising another of said layers.

1           23.     (New) A thermally shrinkable pressure sensitive label having multiple layers and  
2 first and second dimensions measured in mutually perpendicular directions, said label  
3 comprising:

4                   a polymeric film comprising one of said layers, said film having a  
5                   thickness of between about 0.01 to 0.05mm and being  
6                   dimensionally stable at temperatures below an onset temperature  
7                   and being thermally shrinkable when heated to temperatures at or  
8                   above said onset temperature, with shrinkage caused by said

9 heating being greater in one of said directions than in the other of  
10 said directions, the stiffness of said film in one of said directions as  
11 measured in accordance with TAPPI Paper Standard #T498 as  
12 modified by FLEXcon test method #203 being between about 1 to  
13 20 grams;

14 indicia interposed between adjacent layers of said label, said indicia being  
15 visible through a top surface layer of said label; and  
16 a pressure sensitive adhesive defining the bottom surface of said label and  
17 comprising another of said layers.

1 25. (New) A thermally shrinkable pressure sensitive label having multiple layers and  
2 first and second dimensions measured in mutually perpendicular directions, said label  
3 comprising:

4 a polystyrene film comprising one of said layers, said film  
5 having a thickness of between about 0.01 to 0.05mm and being  
6 dimensionally stable at temperatures below an onset  
7 temperature of at least about 75°C and being thermally shrinkable  
8 when heated to temperatures at or above said onset temperature,  
9 with shrinkage caused by said heating being greater in one of said  
10 directions than in the other of said directions, the stiffness of said  
11 film in one of said directions as measured in accordance with  
12 TAPPI Paper Standard #T498 as modified by FLEXcon test  
13 method #203 being between about 1 to 20 grams;

14                   indicia interposed between adjacent layers of said label, said indicia being  
15                   visible through a top surface layer of said label; and  
16                   a pressure sensitive adhesive defining the bottom surface of said label and  
17                   comprising another of said layers.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maurice E. Gauthier", written over a horizontal line.

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